



Environmental Laboratory Advisory Committee (ELAC) Final Meeting Minutes: April 9, 2015

Note: Information communicated in these minutes is not to be used as official New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection policy or as an official Department notification. Contact NJDEP officials directly for official information regarding matters communicated in these minutes.

Administrative Business:

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am by the ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical). Meeting minutes were taken by Dorothy Love (Eurofins Lancaster Labs Env). The March 2015 ELAC Meeting Minutes were approved, with a minor correction regarding the identification of the second on the motion to adjourn the meeting, with a motion by Harvey Klein (Garden State Labs) and seconded by Steve Reduker (IAL).

Environmental Laboratory Certification Program (ECLP): An update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

The revised laboratory certification rules and new fees go into effect on April 20, 2015 with NJ register publication. Changes to the travel fees applied to out of state NELAC laboratories requiring assessors to have overnight travel will go in effect at that time. In addition to the normal travel expenses (hotel, airfare, etc.) the labs will be assessed a charge of \$134 per hour for the travel time to and from the laboratory. There is also a \$3500 surcharge fee for NELAC labs.

Renewal notices are planned to be sent out by April 30th. This date is tentative and it may be the 1st or 2nd week of May. Please be sure to review all paperwork and invoices closely as the categories have been reorganized.

Audits are being scheduled toward the end of the 2 year +/- 6 month time frame. Two new auditors have been hired and are currently being trained.

Questions on the Certification Program may be emailed to Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) at: rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov

Proficiency Test (PT) Program: An update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

Letters regarding any drinking water PT failures are being sent the week of April 13th.

Letters to the NELAC labs regarding performance of the 2nd PT study are being sent the week of April 13th.

Letters regarding the air PT study are being sent the week of May 8th.

WP PT results are due on May 8th.

SHW PT results are due on June 26th.

A change to the NELAC FoPT tables to add EDB/DBCP by method 8011 for aqueous matrices went into effect on March 16th. This now requires PTs to be performed twice per year.

A question was raised by Himanshu Prajapati (Chemtech) regarding the PT that they had received from Phenova for EDB by microextraction. They needed to perform a 1000x DF. The concentration was much higher than the method calibration levels. Rachel will follow-up with Phenova. Upon follow up, the provider said the PT received by the laboratory was not one created under the new fields of testing and was not appropriate for use for 8011. Going forward there will be a specific 8011 PT. So a note to labs: make sure you are obtaining the correct PT for the methods in which you are maintaining certification. If you have any questions as to what PTs are appropriate please call your PT provider.

Questions on the PT Program may be emailed to Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) at: rachel.ellis@dep.nj.gov

The NELAC Institute (TNI): An update was provided by Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA).

TNI enforcement of the 2015 EPA MUR is not scheduled yet but labs can make changes to their procedures at any time.

NOTE: the deadline for submitting comments on the MUR has been extended to May 20th. Comments may be submitted on-line at www.regulations.gov or sent to Adrian Hanley, Engineering and Analysis Division (4303T), Office of Water, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington DC 20460-0001; 202-564-1564; hanley.adrian@epa.gov. Identify Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2014-0797 in your communication.

A revision to the TNI PT Standard modules should be ready to vote on at the July meeting. Volumes 1 and 2 are in progress and are relevant to lab operations.

The TNI Standards are coming up for a 5-year review. Now would be a good time to join a committee to have more direct input in the process.

Dr. Mike Miller (MW Miller Environmental) provided information on the NEFAP Standards. While the standards have been finalized there are some revisions in progress. Use of the NEFAP Standards is voluntary at this time and covers field sampling and measurement organizations (field sampling, mobile lab sampling, field testing, stack testing, air canister sampling). Labs should encourage clients performing field work to use the program. The following is a link to the TNI NEFAP website <http://www.nelac-institute.org/content/NEFAP/index.php>.

There are currently 14 NELAP states. CA NELAP has identified a new program lead and created a committee to assist with the goal of reapplying to be a NELAP AB. OK DEQ is also applying to become a TNI AB.

The next TNI meeting is the week of July 13th in Chicago.

Sludge / Biosolids: No program updates were reported. For questions regarding this program contact Anthony Pilawski at Anthony.Pilawski@dep.nj.gov, 609-633-3823.

Division of Water Supply/Safe Drinking Water: An update was provided by Linda Bonnette (NJ BSDW).

About a year ago, the NJDEP Commissioner had requested that the NJ Drinking Water Quality Institute (DWQI) recommend an MCL for perfluorinated nonanoic acid (PFNA). (Information on the DWQI can be found at www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/g_boards_dwqi.html). On April 8th, the three subcommittees of the DWQI presented their recommendations. The Health Subcommittee recommended a Health-Based MCL of 13 ng/L. The Testing Subcommittee recommended a PQL of 5 ng/L and the Treatment Subcommittee offered the best available treatment technologies for PFNA. The individual reports can be found on the webpage mentioned above. Comments must be submitted by May 7th to watersupply@dep.nj.gov. After addressing comments, the DWQI will recommend a final MCL that will be submitted to the commissioner. The DWQI will be working on PFOS and PFOA next.

BSDW is requesting that labs ask their clients to clearly note on COCs whether the person collecting the sample was a lab employee or a water system employee. This is often unclear in the documentation.

On March 3rd, a new version of the E2 Quick Reference Guide was emailed to drinking water laboratories. Please note that GWR additional source water samples resulting from E coli positive triggered samples must be submitted via E2 on the "Chemical" Excel spreadsheet template and only E. coli results need to be entered. (These are considered as confirmation samples.) Assessment GWR source water sample data is to be submitted on the "Coliform" Excel spreadsheet template rather than the paper form. Also note that for Total Coliform Rule distribution samples there is a mandatory field in E2 for where the samples were taken. This needs a street address or a specific descriptor (i.e. 123 Main St., Anytown NJ; 2nd floor sink). See page 5 and 6 of the E2 Quick reference guide for complete details for submission.

Questions on the Drinking Water Program may be emailed to Linda Bonnette (NJDEP-BSDW) at: linda.bonnette@dep.nj.gov

Site Remediation Program: No DEP representative was available.

Comments are requested on the Interim Groundwater Quality Standards. A listserv notice was sent out April 1st (see below).

April 1, 2015

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has developed and is requesting public input for draft Interim Ground Water Quality Criteria and analytical draft interim practical quantitation levels (PQLs) for several chemicals. The Department is publishing these proposed values and their technical basis and is soliciting public input in the interest of transparency and obtaining additional relevant information. The basis for

the draft interim criteria for these chemicals was developed over the past several years, while the draft PQLs were developed more recently in response to requests from the Department's Site Remediation Program. Therefore, the Department is particularly interested in any new toxicity data or information relevant to the derivation of the draft interim criteria. Please click on this link for additional information: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dsr/gw-criteria-pql-public-comment/>

Subcommittees:

MUR Subcommittee: No update was provided by NJ DEP

Electronic Data Deliverables Subcommittee: An update for the SRP-EDD Subcommittee was provided by Andy Geary and Ken Liao (NJDEP-SRP-BIS).

The Remedial Investigation Report (RIR) service portal is open.

The department is undergoing Windows and Access updates. This will result in a need to upgrade EDSA. Department focus has been on that.

Further discussion was held regarding the best means to identify samples through the EDD process when there are subcontracted tests involved. Steve Reduker (IAL) will provide some examples.

Questions and comments may be directed to Andy Geary (NJDEP-SRP-BIS) at: andy.geary@dep.nj.gov

Communications / OQA Website:

Rachel Ellis (NJDEP-OQA) stated that they have seen some issues with links on the website. If anyone finds links that do not work please let Rachel or Michelle Potter know.

ELAC Chair, Eileen Snyder (Alpha Analytical) reported that the NJDEP-OQA **website** is up to date with the minutes and the 2015 meeting calendar. ELAC members and stakeholders are encouraged to sign up for both the NJDEP-OQA and NJDEP-SRP listserv options to receive email notifications from NJDEP.

Meeting Schedule: The Meeting was adjourned with a motion by Himanshu Prajapati (Chemtech) and seconded by Nick Staccione (Accutest). The next scheduled ELAC Meeting will be held on **Thursday May 14, 2015 at 9:30AM**, at NJDEP, 401 East State Street, **5th Floor Conference Room** in Trenton, New Jersey. Those planning to attend must email the ELAC Secretary, Dorothy Love at: dorothylove@eurofinsUS.com by Thursday, April 30, 2015.

Note: *All visitors must show one form of photo identification, or two non-photo IDs, when signing in at the NJDEP main lobby in the Trenton, New Jersey complex (401, 501, 440 and 428 E. State Street buildings). All visitors should be prepared to verify their identification. **Visitors must be escorted at all times by a NJDEP representative when in the building.***